In the claims:

1. (Original) A peptide comprising amino acid sequence X-Y or Y-X, wherein X is an aromatic amino acid and Y is any amino acid other than glycine, the peptide being at least 2 and no more than 15 amino acids in length.

2-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) The peptide of claim 1, ~~wherein the peptide is~~ selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 4, 12-19, 27-45, 112-123, 125, 127, 128-149 and 150.

13-39. (Canceled)

40. (Original) A method of treating or preventing an amyloid-associated disease in an individual, the method comprising providing to the individual a therapeutically effective amount of a peptide including the amino acid sequence X-Y or Y-X, wherein X is an aromatic amino acid and Y is any amino acid other than glycine, said peptide being at least 2 and no more than 15 amino acids in length.

41-73. (Canceled)

72. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition for treating or preventing an amyloid-associated disease comprising as an active ingredient a peptide including the amino acid sequence X-Y or Y-X, wherein X is an aromatic amino acid and Y is any amino acid other than glycine, said peptide being at least 2 and no more than 15 amino acids in length and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

73. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 72, wherein Y is a polar uncharged amino acid selected from the group consisting of serine, threonine, asparagine, glutamine and natural derivatives thereof.

74. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 72, wherein Y is a β-sheet breaker amino acid.

75. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 74, wherein said β-sheet breaker amino acid is a naturally occurring amino acid.

76. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 75, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is selected from the group consisting of proline, aspartic acid, glutamic acid, glycine, lysine and serine.

77. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 74, wherein said β-sheet breaker amino acid is a synthetic amino acid.

78. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 77, wherein said synthetic amino acid is a Cα-methylated amino acid.

79. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 78, wherein said Cα-methylated amino acid is α-aminoisobutyric acid.

80. (Canceled)

81. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 72, wherein said peptide is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs. 4, 12-19, 27-45, 112-123, 125 and 127.

82. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 72, wherein said peptide is at least 4 amino acids in length and includes at least two serine residues at a C-terminus thereof.

83. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 72, wherein said peptide is at least 3 amino acids in length and whereas at least one of said amino acids of said peptide other than X-Y is a polar uncharged amino acid selected from the group consisting of serine, threonine, asparagine, glutamine and natural derivatives thereof.

84. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 72, wherein said

peptide is at least 3 amino acids in length and whereas at least one of said amino acids of said peptide other than X-Y is a is a β-sheet breaker amino acid.

85. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 84, wherein said β-sheet breaker amino acid is a naturally occurring amino acid.

86. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 85, wherein said naturally occurring amino acid is selected from the group consisting of proline, aspartic acid, glutamic acid, glycine, lysine and serine.

87. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 84, wherein said β-sheet breaker amino acid is a synthetic amino acid.

88. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 87, wherein said synthetic amino acid is a Cα-methylated amino acid.

89. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 88, wherein said Cα-methylated amino acid is α-aminoisobutyric acid.

90. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 84, wherein said β-sheet breaker amino acid is located downstream to said X-Y in said peptide.

91. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 84, wherein said β-sheet breaker amino acid is located upstream to said X-Y in said peptide.

92. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 72, wherein said peptide is at least 3 amino acids in length and whereas at least one of said amino acids of said peptide is a positively charged amino acid and at least one of said amino acids of said peptide is a negatively charged amino acid.

93. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 92, wherein said positively charged amino acid is selected from the group consisting of lysine, arginine, and natural and synthetic derivatives thereof.

94. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 92, wherein said negatively charged amino acid is selected from the group consisting of aspartic acid, glutamic acid and natural and synthetic derivatives thereof.

95. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 72, wherein at least one amino acid of said at least 2 and no more than 15 amino acids of the peptide is a D stereoisomer.

96. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 72, wherein at least one amino acid of said at least 2 and no more than 15 amino acids of the peptide is an L stereoisomer.

97. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 72, wherein the peptide is two amino acids in length and Y is a β-sheet breaker amino acid.

98. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 97, wherein the peptide is as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 145.

99. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 72, wherein the peptide is 3 amino acids in length, whereas Y is an aromatic amino acid and an amino acid residue attached to said amino acid sequence X-Y or Y-X is a β-sheet breaker amino acid.

100. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 99, wherein said β-sheet breaker amino acid is at a C-terminus of the peptide.

101. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 72, wherein the peptide is at least 3 amino acids in length and includes a thiolated amino acid at an N-terminus thereof.

102. (Currently Amended) A nucleic acid construct comprising a polynucleotide segment encoding ~~a~~ the peptide ~~including the amino acid sequence X-Y or Y-X, wherein X is an aromatic amino acid and Y is any amino acid other than~~

~~glycine, said peptide being at least 2 and no more than 15 amino acids in length~~of claim 1.

103-117. (Canceled)

118. (Currently Amended) An antibody or an antibody fragment comprising an antigen recognition region capable of binding ~~a~~ the peptide ~~including the amino acid sequence X-Y or Y-X, wherein X is an aromatic amino acid and Y is any amino acid other than glycine, said peptide being at least 2 and no more than 15 amino acids in length~~of claim 1.

119-140. (Canceled)

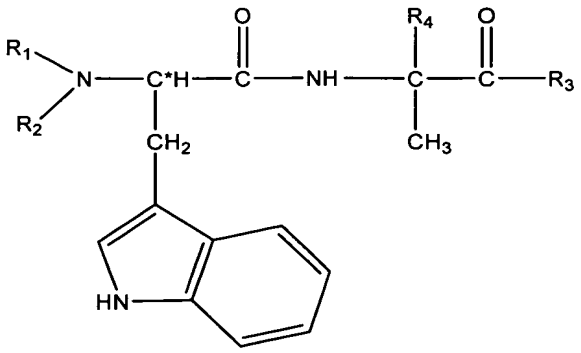
141. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for treating or preventing an amyloid-associated disease comprising as an active ingredient an antibody or an antibody fragment having an antigen recognition region capable of binding ~~a~~ the peptide ~~including the amino acid sequence X-Y or Y-X, wherein X is an aromatic amino acid and Y is any amino acid other than glycine, said peptide being at least 2 and no more than 15 amino acids in length~~of claim 1 and a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier or diluent.

142-147. (Canceled)

148. (Currently Amended) A method of treating or preventing an amyloid-associated disease in an individual, the method comprising providing to the individual therapeutically effective amount of an antibody or an antibody fragment having an antigen recognition region capable of binding ~~a~~ the peptide ~~including the amino acid sequence X-Y or Y-X, wherein X is an aromatic amino acid and Y is any amino acid other than glycine, said peptide being at least 2 and no more than 15 amino acids in length~~of claim 1, thereby treating or preventing the amyloid-associated disease in the individual.

149-154. (Canceled)

155. (Original) A peptide having the general Formula:



wherein:

C* is a chiral carbon having a D configuration.

R_1 and R_2 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, carboxy, C-thiocarb;

R_3 is selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, alkoxy, aryloxy, thiohydroxy, thioalkoxy, thioaryloxy, halo and amine; and

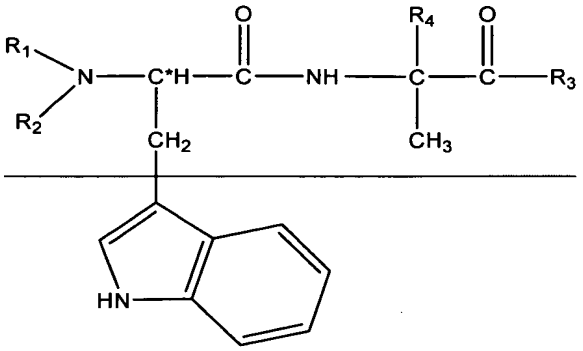
R_4 is alkyl.

156. (Original) The peptide of claim 155, wherein R_4 is methyl.

157. (Original) The peptide of claim 155, wherein R_1 and R_2 are each hydrogen and R_3 is hydroxy.

158. (Original) The peptide of claim 155 is a cyclic peptide.

159. (Currently Amended) A method of treating or preventing an amyloid-associated disease in an individual, the method comprising providing to the individual a therapeutically effective amount of ~~a~~ the peptide ~~having the general Formula:~~



~~wherein:~~

~~C* is a chiral carbon having a D configuration.~~

~~R_1 and R_2 are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, carboxy, C-thiocarb;~~

~~R_3 is selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, alkoxy, aryloxy, thiohydroxy, thioalkoxy, thioaryloxy, halo and amine; and~~

~~R_4 is alkyl.~~

160-162. (Canceled)